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VILLAGE SURVEY

LITANI RURAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

LEBANON

by

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The five villages in the effected by the Litani Rural Improvement Project are located along northern branch of the Litani Irrigation Canal. The area comprising these villages[1] encompasses the high hills above the Litani Irrigation Project which, when completed, will provide the rich coastal plain extending from Sidon in the south to Bint-El-Jbail three miles south of Tyre. The Litani Irrigation Project was begun under the French Mandate, continued during the British occupation, and partially completed under the Lebanese Republic. Due to a lack of funds, work on the project was discontinued in 1960 when about half of the canal area to be irrigated was under operating canals. It covers an area of 35,000 dunums of land and extends a length of 37 kilometers (23 miles). It averages 12 kilometers (one mile) in width. The completed portion of the irrigation works supplies water to prosperous new citrus orchards, banana groves and vegetable gardens.

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1. Mr. Adams is rural agricultural economist with the Litani River Development Group and Chief of the Litani Cooperative Services Project. Mr. Stewart is an assistant professor of economics at the American University of Beirut who participated in this study as a consultant to the Lebanese Ministry of National Economy. Mr. Tugwell is a private economist on the staff of [illegible] Litani Group.

2. In the South Middle East an English mile = 1 league = two miles; when the term appears alone in the following pages and all the surrounding land belongs to the villagers, which is legally approximate to it. To avoid misunderstandings, two [illegible] terms have been adopted. The term [illegible] is used to denote the larger village which includes the built-up area and other lands approximate to it. The term [illegible] is used to designate the built-up area of the [illegible]. Any [illegible] of population or land area, is not construed to the use of [illegible].